Development of cryogenic engine

†1329. SHRI P.K. MAHESHWARI: Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

(a) the present status of development of cryogenic engine being developed by indigenous technique for space programme;

(b) by when the Indian satellite, based on indigenous cryogenic engine, is expected to be launched at first; and

(c) whether the indigenously developed cryogenic engines would be sold to other countries also?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF SPACE (SHRI SATYABRATA MOOKHERJEE): (a) The indigenous cryogenic engine has been evaluated in a number of ground hot firing tests for a cumulative duration of about 4000 seconds using two sets of engine hardware. This included the intended full flight duration for 700 seconds. Preparations have been made for the development and qualification of the integrated indigenous cryogenic stage, including the engine by early 2004.

(b) The first flight demonstration of the indigenous cryogenic upper stage is tentatively planned during 2004-05 based on a success-oriented schedule for the qualification of the indigenous stage.

(c) There are no such plans at present.

Indian Astronaut for International Space Station

1330. SHRI R.P. GOENKA: Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that there is a proposal to send an Indian astronaut On Board the International Space Station (ISS) being put together by a consortium of sixteen other nations; and

(b) if so, the details thereof including the specific experiments and studies being planned on the International Space Station?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF SPACE (SHRI SATYABRATA MOOKHERJEE): (a) No, Sir. At present there are no plans.

(b) Does not arise.

†Original notice of the question was received in Hindi.